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Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 2 8 2014

RE: S.B. No. 3024 S.D. 2

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim President of the Senate Twenty-Seventh State Legislature Regular Session of 2014 State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 3024, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS TAX,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to increase financial resources to support conservation and natural resource protection programs in the State.

Specifically, the measure:

- (1) Increases from \$3,000,000 to \$10,000,000 the amount of transient accommodations tax revenues allocated for certain purposes subject to the mutual agreement of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, in accordance with the Hawaii Tourism Authority strategic plan; and
- (2) Allocates \$5,000,000 of the \$10,000,000 to the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and The Nature Conservancy. Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of Budget and Finance and the Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

SB3024 SD2 SSCR LRB 14-1510.doc



Your Committee finds that the Legislature enacted Act 161, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, to, among other things, provide a consistent source of funds for Hawaii to effectively market itself in a competitive tourist industry, to maintain tourist attractions, and to enhance the visitor experience. Your Committee also finds that although Act 161 set aside a portion of transient accommodations tax revenues for this purpose, it did not provide the authority to expend these funds.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that the transient accommodations tax revenues shall be allocated to the special land and development fund, established under section 171-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to ensure that the Department of Land and Natural Resources has the authority to expend these funds;
- (2) Changing the dollar amounts of the allocations from transient accommodations tax revenues to unspecified amounts;
- (3) Clarifying that the portion of the transient accommodations tax revenues to be set aside for conservation and resources enforcement shall be allocated to the conservation and resources enforcement special fund, established pursuant to section 199-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (4) Authorizing allocations of transient accommodations tax revenues from the special land and development fund to the:
 - (A) Beach restoration special fund, established pursuant to section 171-156, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
 - (B) State parks special fund, established pursuant to section 184-3.4, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
 - (C) Hawaii Statewide Trail and Access Program, established pursuant to section 198D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

- (D) Conservation and resources enforcement special fund, established pursuant to section 199-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (6) Making technical nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of consistency, clarity, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3024, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3024, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

DAVID Y. IGE Chair

The Senate Twenty-Seventh Legislature State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes Committee on Ways and Means WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:			Date:		
SB 3024 SD1	TSM/WTL, WAM			2-20-14		
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.						
If so, then the previous decision was to:						
The Recommendation is:						
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313						
Members		Aye	Aye (W	R)	Nay	Excused
IGE, David Y. (C)						
KIDANI, Michelle N. (VC)						
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne						
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.						V
ENGLISH, J. Kalani						
ESPERO, Will						
KAHELE, Gilbert						
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.						V
KOUCHI, Ronald D.						V
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	1					
THIELEN, Laura H.						
TOKUDA, Jill N.			ļ	-		
SLOM, Sam			\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \			
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Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted						
Chair's or Designee's Signature: Nuchtle A. Kadani						
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy						